

Conversation Contents

Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 7/12/17

Attachments:

/9. Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 7/12/17/1.1 DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 7-12-17.docx

"Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>

From: "Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Wed Jul 12 2017 11:57:57 GMT-0600 (MDT)
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To:
Subject: Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 7/12/17
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Attached and copied below.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 7/12/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

Lori Mashburn, White House Liaison

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NOTE: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has scheduled hearings for two Interior nominees on Thursday, July 20.

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Status of the Secretary

TODAY: The Secretary is in Washington, DC. He will:

Attend Cully Stimson Confirmation Hearing.

Meet with Pat Soon Shiong.

Call with Rep. Duncan Hunter.

Meet with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Call with Senator Merkley.

NEC Infrastructure Principals Meeting.

THIS WEEK:

THURSDAY: OMB Reporter Breakfast Briefing.

FRIDAY: Meeting with the International Conservation Caucus Foundation, travel to Salt Lake City UT.

SATURDAY: Travel to Medford, OR. Tour monument.

SUNDAY: Meetings on monuments. Travel back to Washington.

NEXT WEEK:

Monday/Tuesday/Wed: office

Thursday: Travel to CO, NM, NV.

NOTE: the Secretary will be on personal leave August 5-19 out of the country.

Media TODAY

Nothing planned unless the White House nominates a new person for DOI. (Expected).

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(Sent yesterday to the WH.)

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· Santa Barbara Independent: REQUEST-- Now that the public comment period for public comment on national monument designation has expired, can you outline what happens next and in what time frame? Is there a deadline by which z. needs to respond or is totally discretionary as to when or if he responds at all? I am hearing from Salud Carbajal's office that no response has yet been made to his requests to meet with R. Zinke to discuss the matter. Is that still accurate? --RESPONSE-- As is outlined in the Executive Order, the review period ends on August 24th. The comments will be reviewed and the Secretary will continue to have meetings with various stakeholders in the coming weeks. At this time, the Department does not have any further announcements on monuments.

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- Bismarck Tribune: Fort Berthold environmental organization files suit over methane rule pause
- Flathead Beacon: Under Pressure, Glacier Park Loosens Boating Restrictions
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CONGRESSIONAL

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10:00am: House Natural Resources Committee, Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee

Oversight Hearing: Examining Offshore Oil and Gas Development

Witness: Katharine MacGregor, Acting Assistant Secretary, Lands and Minerals, DOI

2:30pm: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

Legislative Hearing: S.943, Johnson-O'Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act; S.1223, Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act; S.1285, Oregon Tribal Economic Development Act

Witness: Tony Dearman, Director, Bureau of Indian Education

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DOI's politicals on board = 48

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7/20 Tour with Secretary Perry

7/22-29 National Monument Review Tour Nevada and New Mexico

8/5-20 Personal

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7/23 National Boy Scout Jamboree (Glen Jean, WV)

8/5 - Glacier National Park Conservancy remarks at Annual Backpacker's Ball (Whitefish/Kalispell)

8/18 - Council of State Governments-West State and Federal Relations Committee (Tacoma, WA)

8/22 - 2017 Lake Tahoe Summit invited by Sen. Feinstein and Sen. Heller (Lake Tahoe, CA)

8/25-26 - Steamboat Institute's 9th Annual Freedom Conference & Festival (Steamboat Springs, CO)

8/30 - West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting (White Sulphur Springs, WV)

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7/12 American Sportfishing Association's International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades (Orlando, FL)

7/21-23 - Western Conservative Summit (Denver)

7/23-26 - Aspen Institute Forum on Global Energy, Economy, and Security (Aspen, CO)

7/31-8/2 - FBI National Academy Associates Annual Training Conference (DC)

8/2 - American Legion Northwest Regional Baseball Tournament's Opening Ceremony General Welcome (Missoula, MT)

8/17 - Mineral Hill Conservation Project (Gardiner, MT)

8/21 - Gage County Tourism and Beatrice Chamber of Commerce (Beatrice, NE)

8/22-23 - National Wild Horse and Burro Management Summit (Salt Lake City, UT)

8/24 - National Native American Law Enforcement Association (Las Vegas, NV)

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Emergency Management

Nothing new to report.

Outside Media of Interest

U.S. Interior Department Receives Over 2 Million Comments On Monument Review.

Reuters (7/11, Volcovici) reports that the public comment period for the review of national monuments and marine sanctuaries “drew more than 2 million public comments ahead of a report to be issued by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to President Donald Trump next month.” Zinke said on Tuesday “that more than 1.2 million comments were received on the Regulations.gov website and thousands more were received via traditional mail.” Zinke said in a statement, “After hearing some feedback, I’d like to remind and reassure folks that even if a monument is modified, the land will remain under federal ownership.”

Senators To Trump: Hands Off America’s National Monuments....

Public Overwhelmingly Supports Keeping Monuments Intact...

Thousands Comment On Nevada’s Gold Butte National Monument....

More Than 400,000 Comments On Utah’s Bears Ears Monument....

Thousands Comment On Upper Missouri River Breaks For National Monument Review....

Overwhelming Support For Craters....

Pruitt, Zinke Visit State Farm Bureau Presidents.

The American Farm Bureau (7/11, Thornton) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt “made guest appearances Tuesday morning in Washington during the American Farm Bureau Federation’s Council of Presidents meeting.” During his remarks, “Zinke outlined the importance of supporting multiple uses of the nation’s public lands.” He also “spoke briefly about the challenges presented by wild horse overpopulation on public lands.”

Congressman LaMalfa Asks Interior Secretary To Stop Marijuana Grows.

KRCR-TV Redding, CA (7/11, Gardner) reports that Rep. Doug LaMalfa “wrote letters to the Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue asking them to prevent marijuana grows on public lands.” In the letters LaMalfa wrote, “Drug cartels have created large-scale operations on federal lands which illegally divert stream water, dump tons of illegal toxicants and pollutants, and harm the local wildlife. These sites are often protected by heavily armed cartel members which pose a serious safety risk to those who utilize our public lands for hunting, fishing, and recreational activities – as well as the Forest Service and BLM staff who patrol the forests. It is imperative that the federal government address this problem in order to make our forests safe again for the public to enjoy.”

Op-Ed: Shrinking Bears Ears Is Shortsighted And Wrong.

In an op-ed for the Deseret (UT) News (7/11, Yarnold), David Yarnold, president and CEO of the National Audubon Society, raises concerns after Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has “indicated he will recommend that the government dramatically shrink” the Bears Ears National Monument, “which could open the landscape to oil and gas drilling and other potentially damaging activities.” Yarnold blasts the decision as “shortsighted and just plain wrong.” In response, the National Audubon Society is “bringing together 400 leaders from across its state and chapter network this weekend in Park City to support the protection of Bears Ears.”

The U.S. Is Too Dependent On Foreign Mineral Imports.

In an op-ed for U.S. News & World Report (7/11), Ned Mamula, an associate fellow with the R Street Institute, and Catrina Rorke, a senior fellow with the R Street Institute, write that the Trump Administration is “driving a massive pivot on public-lands policy” and it’s “a firm step toward righting the ship on our national approach to mineral resources on federal lands” They note that “earlier this year, the U.S. Geological Survey reported that, of 88 important minerals they track, the United States is more than 25 percent import-dependent for 62 of them.” The authors warn that “the risk to the United States comes not just from its import-dependency, but its dependency on imports from countries known to use domestic resource wealth as a diplomatic and trade weapon.”

High-Profile Attorneys Join Wyoming Boundary Dispute.

The AP (7/11) reports that “a lawsuit over the boundaries of the Wind River Reservation in central Wyoming is attracting some high-profile attorneys, including former U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.” Salazar, who served in the Obama Administration, is “among several high-profile attorneys brought in by the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes in their lawsuit against the state of Wyoming.” Salazar is “representing the Shoshone along with former Solicitor General Seth Waxman, who served under President Bill Clinton, and the Arapaho also have hired Paul Clement, who was a solicitor general under President George W. Bush.”

Trump Budget Sets Up Wild Horse Showdown.

The Reno (NV) Gazette-Journal (7/11, Spillma) reports that wild horses “could be killed in greater numbers under a budget proposal from President Donald Trump.” The article notes that “the changes are included in Trump’s proposed budget for the Bureau of Land Management, which seeks an 11 percent cut to the agency’s \$1.1 billion budget.” Moreover, “in addition to the overall cut the agency’s budget justification document proposes cutting \$10 million and 29 jobs from the Wild Horse and Burro management program, a reduction of 12 percent.”

Air Force Backs Continued Oil Drilling Moratorium.

The Tampa Bay (FL) Times (7/11, Pittman) reports in its Buzz Florida Politics blog that the US Air Force agreed with a bipartisan group of Florida politicians that the existing moratorium on offshore drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico should be extended. General David L. Goldfein, the Air Force chief of staff, wrote to Sen. Bill Nelson saying the Air Force “needs the certainty of the proposed extension” to ensure that it can continue testing and training flights in the area.

Monk Seal Bites, Injures US Wildlife Staffer On Midway Atoll.

The AP (7/11, Jones) reports that “a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee has been bitten by an endangered Hawaiian monk seal while swimming at Midway Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.” FWS spokeswoman Megan Nagel “said Tuesday that the incident happened on July 6 on Midway’s North Beach in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.” The article says that “staff access to all beaches has been closed until the end of the pupping season in response to the attack.”

Interior Provides Nearly \$ 1M Grant To CNMI.

The Saipan (MNP) Tribune (7/10) reports that Acting Interior assistant secretary Nikolao Pula “made available last week \$994,711 to the CNMI to improve water distribution, waste management, and hospital billing services.” Another grant was “provided for a joint government/non-profit partnership to improve efforts in addressing and prosecuting sexual violence cases.” Pula said, “Requests submitted to the Office of Insular Affairs for grant assistance always outweigh the available resources. We are pleased that we can support some of the worthy projects prioritized by Gov. Ralph [DLG] Torres as they will have a direct impact toward improving lives for our fellow Americans living in the CNMI.”

Federal Register Listings

Items cleared for the FR on Tuesday.

REG0007147 BIA Indian Gaming; Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Amendment Taking Effect in the State of Wisconsin. This Notice announces that the Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Amendment entered into between the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation of Wisconsin and the State of Wisconsin is taking effect on the date of publication of this Notice in the Federal Register. Notice

07/11/2017.

REG0007154 BIA Land Acquisitions; The Chickasaw Nation 30.03 Willis Site. The BIA provides public notice that the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs proclaimed approximately 30.03 acres of land near the Town of Willis, Marshall County, Oklahoma in trust for the Chickasaw Nation for gaming and other purposes on January 19, 2017. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007155 BIA Land Acquisitions; The Chickasaw Nation 30.05 Terral Site. The BIA provides public notice that the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire 30.05 acres, more or less, of land near the Town of Terral, Jefferson County, Oklahoma in trust for the Chickasaw Nation for gaming and other purposes on January 19, 2017. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007156 BIA Land Acquisitions; The Cherokee Nation 51.35 Acres Cherokee Roland Plaza. The BIA provides public notice that the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire 51.35 acres, more or less, of land in Sequoyah County, Oklahoma in trust for the Cherokee Nation for gaming and other purposes on January 19, 2017. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007161 BIA Indian Gaming; Approval of an Amendment to a Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact in the State of Arizona This Notice announces the approval of an Agreement to Amend Compact governing Class III gaming between the Tohono O'odham Nation and the State of Arizona. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007167 NPS National Register of Historic Places, June 17, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before June 17, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007168 NPS National Register of Historic Places, June 24, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before June 24, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007166 ONRR Agency Information Collection Activities: Collection of Monies Due the Federal Government. This Notice, under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), announces that ONRR will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew its approval of an information collection for the paperwork requirements in 30 CFR part 1218 concerning the collection of monies due the Federal government. ONRR is requesting public comments on the proposed information collection for 60 days. Notice 07/11/2017.

WOLF TRAP

Tickets in the Secretary's box available. Please share with WH staff.

7-14-17	Puccini's Tosca	8:30 PM
7-15-17	The Tenors	8:15 PM
7-18-17	Mamma Mia	8:00 PM

Doug Domenech
Senior Advisor
US Department of the Interior

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

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Outside Media of Interest

U.S. Interior Department Receives Over 2 Million Comments On Monument Review.

Reuters (7/11, Volcovici) reports that the public comment period for the review of national monuments and marine sanctuaries “drew more than 2 million public comments ahead of a report to be issued by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to President Donald Trump next month.” Zinke said on Tuesday “that more than 1.2 million comments were received on the Regulations.gov website and thousands more were received via traditional mail.” Zinke said in a statement, “After hearing some feedback, I’d like to remind and reassure folks that even if a monument is modified, the land will remain under federal ownership.”

Senators To Trump: Hands Off America’s National Monuments....

Public Overwhelmingly Supports Keeping Monuments Intact...

Thousands Comment On Nevada’s Gold Butte National Monument....

More Than 400,000 Comments On Utah’s Bears Ears Monument....

Thousands Comment On Upper Missouri River Breaks For National Monument Review....

Overwhelming Support For Craters....

Pruitt, Zinke Visit State Farm Bureau Presidents.

The American Farm Bureau (7/11, Thornton) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt “made guest appearances Tuesday morning in Washington during the American Farm Bureau Federation’s Council of Presidents meeting.” During his remarks, “Zinke outlined the importance of supporting multiple uses of the nation’s public lands.” He also “spoke briefly about the challenges presented by wild horse overpopulation on public lands.”

Congressman LaMalfa Asks Interior Secretary To Stop Marijuana Grows.

KRCR-TV Redding, CA (7/11, Gardner) reports that Rep. Doug LaMalfa “wrote letters to the Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue asking them to prevent marijuana grows on public lands.” In the letters LaMalfa wrote, “Drug cartels have created large-scale operations on federal lands which illegally divert stream water, dump tons of illegal toxicants and pollutants, and harm the local wildlife. These sites are often protected by heavily armed cartel members which pose a serious safety risk to those who utilize our public lands for hunting, fishing, and recreational activities – as well as the Forest Service and BLM staff who patrol the forests. It is imperative that the federal government address this problem in order to make our forests safe again for the public to enjoy.”

Op-Ed: Shrinking Bears Ears Is Shortsighted And Wrong.

In an op-ed for the Deseret (UT) News (7/11, Yarnold), David Yarnold, president and CEO of the National Audubon Society, raises concerns after Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has “indicated he will recommend that the government dramatically shrink” the Bears Ears National Monument, “which could open the landscape to oil and gas drilling and other potentially damaging activities.” Yarnold blasts the decision as “shortsighted and just plain wrong.” In response, the National Audubon Society is “bringing together 400 leaders from across its state and chapter network this weekend in Park City to support the protection of Bears Ears.”

The U.S. Is Too Dependent On Foreign Mineral Imports.

In an op-ed for U.S. News & World Report (7/11), Ned Mamula, an associate fellow with the R Street Institute, and Catrina Rorke, a senior fellow with the R Street Institute, write that the Trump Administration is “driving a massive pivot on public-lands policy” and it’s “a firm step toward righting the

ship on our national approach to mineral resources on federal lands” They note that “earlier this year, the U.S. Geological Survey reported that, of 88 important minerals they track, the United States is more than 25 percent import-dependent for 62 of them.” The authors warn that “the risk to the United States comes not just from its import-dependency, but its dependency on imports from countries known to use domestic resource wealth as a diplomatic and trade weapon.”

High-Profile Attorneys Join Wyoming Boundary Dispute.

The AP (7/11) reports that “a lawsuit over the boundaries of the Wind River Reservation in central Wyoming is attracting some high-profile attorneys, including former U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.” Salazar, who served in the Obama Administration, is “among several high-profile attorneys brought in by the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes in their lawsuit against the state of Wyoming.” Salazar is “representing the Shoshone along with former Solicitor General Seth Waxman, who served under President Bill Clinton, and the Arapaho also have hired Paul Clement, who was a solicitor general under President George W. Bush.”

Trump Budget Sets Up Wild Horse Showdown.

The Reno (NV) Gazette-Journal (7/11, Spillma) reports that wild horses “could be killed in greater numbers under a budget proposal from President Donald Trump.” The article notes that “the changes are included in Trump’s proposed budget for the Bureau of Land Management, which seeks an 11 percent cut to the agency’s \$1.1 billion budget.” Moreover, “in addition to the overall cut the agency’s budget justification document proposes cutting \$10 million and 29 jobs from the Wild Horse and Burro management program, a reduction of 12 percent.”

Air Force Backs Continued Oil Drilling Moratorium.

The Tampa Bay (FL) Times (7/11, Pittman) reports in its Buzz Florida Politics blog that the US Air Force agreed with a bipartisan group of Florida politicians that the existing moratorium on offshore drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico should be extended. General David L. Goldfein, the Air Force chief of staff, wrote to Sen. Bill Nelson saying the Air Force “needs the certainty of the proposed extension” to ensure that it can continue testing and training flights in the area.

Monk Seal Bites, Injures US Wildlife Staffer On Midway Atoll.

The AP (7/11, Jones) reports that “a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee has been bitten by an endangered Hawaiian monk seal while swimming at Midway Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.” FWS spokeswoman Megan Nagel “said Tuesday that the incident happened on July 6 on Midway’s North Beach in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.” The article says that “staff access to all beaches has been closed until the end of the pupping season in response to the attack.”

Interior Provides Nearly \$ 1M Grant To CNMI.

The Saipan (MNP) Tribune (7/10) reports that Acting Interior assistant secretary Nikolao Pula “made available last week \$994,711 to the CNMI to improve water distribution, waste management, and hospital billing services.” Another grant was “provided for a joint government/non-profit partnership to improve efforts in addressing and prosecuting sexual violence cases.” Pula said, “Requests submitted to the Office of Insular Affairs for grant assistance always outweigh the available resources. We are pleased that we can support some of the worthy projects prioritized by Gov. Ralph [DLG] Torres as they will have a direct impact toward improving lives for our fellow Americans living in the CNMI.”

Federal Register Listings

Items cleared for the FR on Tuesday.

REG0007147 BIA Indian Gaming; Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Amendment Taking Effect in the State of Wisconsin. This Notice announces that the Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Amendment entered into between the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation of Wisconsin and the State of Wisconsin is taking effect on the date of publication of this Notice in the Federal Register. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007154 BIA Land Acquisitions; The Chickasaw Nation 30.03 Willis Site. The BIA provides public notice that the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs proclaimed approximately 30.03 acres of land near the Town of Willis, Marshall County, Oklahoma in trust for the Chickasaw Nation for gaming and other purposes on January 19, 2017. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007155 BIA Land Acquisitions; The Chickasaw Nation 30.05 Terral Site. The BIA provides public notice that the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire 30.05 acres, more or less, of land near the Town of Terral, Jefferson County, Oklahoma in trust for the Chickasaw Nation for gaming and other purposes on January 19, 2017. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007156 BIA Land Acquisitions; The Cherokee Nation 51.35 Acres Cherokee Roland Plaza. The BIA provides public notice that the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire 51.35 acres, more or less, of land in Sequoyah County, Oklahoma in trust for the Cherokee Nation for gaming and other purposes on January 19, 2017. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007161 BIA Indian Gaming; Approval of an Amendment to a Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact in the State of Arizona This Notice announces the approval of an Agreement to Amend Compact governing Class III gaming between the Tohono O'odham Nation and the State of Arizona. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007167 NPS National Register of Historic Places, June 17, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before June 17, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007168 NPS National Register of Historic Places, June 24, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before June 24, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 07/11/2017.

REG0007166 ONRR Agency Information Collection Activities: Collection of Monies Due the Federal Government. This Notice, under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), announces that ONRR will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew its approval of an information collection for the paperwork requirements in 30 CFR part 1218 concerning the collection of monies due the Federal government. ONRR is requesting public comments on the proposed information collection for 60 days. Notice 07/11/2017.

WOLF TRAP

Tickets in the Secretary's box available. Please share with WH staff.

7-14-17	Puccini's Tosca	8:30 PM
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7-15-17	The Tenors	8:15 PM
7-18-17	Mamma Mia	8:00 PM